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AUTHOR	Mallett, Margaret
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ABSTRACT

Suggesting that informational kinds of reading and writing are crucial in every lesson, this book looks at how teachers can encourage children from the very beginning to think of themselves as young researchers using skills and strategies for clear purposes. It argues that the creative practitioner nurtures children's sense of wonder and curiosity about the world and all its phenomena. The book celebrates the good practice of teachers and student teaches in a large number of classroom case studies. It includes a summary of the recent developments and a framework of principles to inform good practice in this challenging aspect of literacy; chapters concentrating on particular age groups; and an assessment of recent research and how findings can be put to practical and creative use in the classroom. Chapters in the book are (1) Informational Reading and Writing: A Developmental Approach; (2) Pre-School and Nursery Years (0-5): Entering the World of Information; (3) Informational Reading and Writing at Key Stage 1 (5-7): Enjoying and Learning about Finding Out; (4) Informational Reading and Writing at Key Stage 2 (7-9): Making Progress in Satisfying and Pleasurable Contexts; (5) Informational Reading and Writing at Key Stage 2 (9-11): Meeting New Challenges Creatively; (6) Young Researchers with Special Literacy Needs; and (7) Recording Progress: Assessment of Children's Informational Reading and Writing. (Contains 115 references. An appendix lists the telephone numbers of main publishers referred to in the book, along with both a name and subject index.) (RS)

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